An Account *of the Proceedings of the* Charitable Society *for relieving the* Sick *and* Needy, *at the Publick* Infirmary *in* James-ſtreet Weſtminſter, *from its Firſt Inſtitution in the Year* 1719, *to* Lady-day, 1735.

THO' the Riſe, Progreſs and Succeſs of this Charitable Society is now ſo well known, at leaſt to the Inhabitants of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, that any Introduction to the Account annually publiſhed by Order of the Truſtees thereof, may ſeem unneceſſary, yet as this may fall into the Hands of ſeveral Charitable and well-diſpoſed Perſons, who have either not heard of it, or have not been made acquainted with the Methods by which it was firſt promoted, and has for many Years been ſucceſsfully carried on; It is thought proper to inform them, That in the Year 1719, ſeveral well-diſpoſed Gentlemen, deſirous to lay the Foundation of a moſt Beneficent and extenſive Charity, *viz.* That of providing for ſuch Sick and Needy Perſons, as were deſtitute of proper Aſſiſtance, and oftentimes of common Neceſſaries, after frequent Meetings and due Conſideration, agreed at laſt in Opinion, That nothing would more effectually anſwer the End propoſed, than fixing an Infirmary in St. *Margaret*'s Pariſh (there being nothing of that Sort within the Populous City and Liberties of *Weſtminſter*) and ſupporting the ſame by voluntary Contributions from Year to Year. In order to this it was, in the firſt place, thought neceſſary to prepare a Subſcription-Roll: The Preamble of which was accordingly drawn up and agreed to, as follows, *viz.*

WHEREAS great Numbers of ſick Perſons in this City languiſh for want of Neceſſaries, and too often die miſerably, who are not entitled to a Parœchial Relief: And whereas amongſt thoſe, who do receive Relief from their reſpective Pariſhes, many ſuffer extremely, and are ſometimes loſt, partly for want of Accommodations and proper Medicines in their own Houſes or Lodgings, (the Cloſeneſs and Unwholſomneſs of which is too often one great Cauſe of their Sickneſs) partly by the imprudent laying out of what is ſo allowed, and by the Ignorance and ill Management of thoſe about them;

We,

We, whoſe Names are underwritten, in Obedience to the Rules of our holy Religion, deſiring, ſo far as in us lies, to find ſome Remedy for this great Miſery of our poor Neighbours, do ſubſcribe the following Sums of Money, to be by Us paid Yearly (during Pleaſure) by Quarterly Payments, for the procuring, furniſhing, and defraying the neceſſary Expences of an Infirmary, *or Place of Entertainment, for ſuch poor ſick Perſons, inhabiting in the Pariſh of St.* Margaret Weſtminſter, *or others, who ſhall be recommended by any of the Subſcribers or Benefactors, with the Approbation and Conſent of the major Part of the Truſtees preſent; who are likewiſe impowered to allow ſuitable Relief to ſuch ſick Perſons, approved in the manner abovementioned, as are incapable of being removed from their reſpective Abodes.*

As the Nature and firſt Deſign of this Undertaking ſufficiently appears by the foregoing Preamble, ſo does the Succeſs of it by the Account hereto ſubjoin'd, in which the Number of Perſons Cured, the Sums of Money Received, Expended, and Remaining at this time in Bank, are all exactly Specified.

The Society have lately enlarged their Charity in two Particulars, *viz.* Cloathing the Poor, whilſt they continue in the Houſe, and entertaining Patients deem'd Incurable; to which they have been encouraged by Benefactions given for both thoſe Purpoſes.

The Patients upon their Admittance are Cloathed in decent, warm and diſtinguiſhing Apparel, which they leave behind them when diſcharged: And it is hoped, That this Regulation will produce the deſired Effects of Cleanlineſs, Health, and good Order.

They propoſe to entertain ſuch Incurable Patients only, as ſhall have been under the Care of the Phyſicians and Surgeons for a Competent Time upon the Foot of Curables, and after the Uſe of proper Medicines and Methods, and a ſufficient Trial made, are judged at laſt Incurable: And only ſo many of theſe ſhall be received upon this Eſtabliſhment, as may be ſupported by the Intereſt-Money ariſing from the Benefactions expreſly given and aſſigned to that End. The Society think this Branch of the Charity the more uſeful, as it is extended to the moſt deplorable and moſt miſerable of all Objects.

As all Subſcribers to the Charity are, by Virtue of their Subſcriptions, Truſtees for the poor Sick with equal Powers and Privileges; ſo the more they concern themſelves in the Management of the Affairs of the Society, they will ſtill be the greater Benefactors to it, and will be better ſatisfy'd, that the Money given is juſtly and properly apply'd.

So many of the Truſtees, as think fit, meet every *Wedneſday* Evening about Five o'Clock. At theſe Meetings they admit and diſcharge Patients, they ſtate and adjuſt their Receipts and Diſburſements, of which they keep regular and exact Accounts, and tranſact ſuch other Matters, as from time to time are found requiſite. There are alſo held four Quarterly General Boards every Year, to which all the Truſtees are ſummoned. At theſe General Boards all things of greater Moment are taken under Conſideration; and then it is, that all Orders are made, approved, alter'd or repeal'd, as Occaſion requires.

Dr. *Wigan* and Dr. *Cotes* the preſent Phyſicians, Mr. *Pyle* and Mr. *Price* Surgeons to this Infirmary, and ſeveral worthy Clergymen (who are all Subſcribers) carefully and conſtantly attend the poor Sick People, each in the way of their reſpective Profeſſions. Several Charitable Apothecaries take care to procure the beſt Medicines at the beſt Hand, which are not received in, nor paid for, till they are inſpected and approved of by the Phyſicians, Surgeons and Apothecaries of the Society, who meet every firſt *Monday* in the Month for that Purpoſe, and they go

frequently to the Infirmary, to ſee that the Medicines are rightly made up, and duly diſpenſed, and that the Apothecary of the Houſe and the Nurſes take all proper Care of the Patients. Moreover Medicines and Advice are given to all ſuch Perſons as are recommended by any Subſcriber upon the Foot of Out-Patients, and Advice is given *Gratis* to any Perſon who comes for it, without Recommendation, every *Monday* and *Tueſday*, at Ten in the Morning. Other worthy Gentlemen daily viſit the Houſe to inſpect the Proviſions, and ſee that good Order is kept.

This Infirmary is now removed to *James-Street*, and tho' ſituate in St. *Margaret*'s Pariſh, is equally for the Reception and Relief of the Neceſſitous, Sick and Wounded from all Parts: And as the utmoſt Care is taken in the Application of all Contributions, It is humbly hoped that the Religious, Virtuous and Benevolent, whoſe Fortunes enable them to do good, will contribute to a Charity in its Nature ſo Beneficial to the moſt miſerable of their Fellow-Creatures.

From the Publick INFIRMARY in *James-Street*, *Weſtminſter*, for the Sick and Needy, *Wedneſday* the 26th of *March*, 1735.

UNder the Care of the ſaid Infirmary from its firſt Erection in *December* 1719, to the 27th of *March* 1734, according to former Accounts.			4053
Cured this Year		151	
Diſcharged for Irregularity		3	
Out-Patients, diſcharg'd for not attending, ſuppos'd cured		116	
Diſcharged incurable		10	
Dead		37	
Out-Patients then on the Books	59		
Patients then in the Houſe	37	97	
And on the Fund for the Incurables	1		
Total in 1734			414
In all			4467

A general Abſtract of the Account for the Year 1734.

Receipts, *viz.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
Balance of the laſt Year's Account				2324	09	09½			
Subſcriptions this Year	606	19	06						
Benefactions, *viz.*									
In common	333	04	08						
Towards the Fund for the Incurables	486	02	00						
For Cloathing	99	05	06						
	918	12	02						
Intereſt, *viz.*									
Of 23 *Eaſt-India* Bonds	75	05	00						
Of 25 *Ditto*	43	15	00						
Premium and Intereſt for one Bond ſold	5	14	01						
	124	14	01						
				1650	05	09			
Total receiv'd							3974	15	06½

Payments, *viz.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*			
House-keeping, including Beer, Coals, *&c.*	315	17	01 ½			
Medicines dispensed	133	13	08			
House-Rent	37	00	00			
Salaries and Wages	80	17	11			
Tradesmens Bills at the old House	24	06	09			
				591	15	05 ½
Extraordinaries, *viz.*						
For Cloathing	63	18	00			
Præmium and Interest on two *East-India* Bonds	*l.* 2	*s.* 15	*d.* 08			
Præmium and Interest on four *South-Sea* Bonds for the Incurables	15	13	05			
				18	09	01
Tradesmens Bills in part for furnishing the new House, and fitting up the Apothecary's Shop, Elaboratory, *&c.*	153	07	05			
To Mr. *Henry Flitcrofte* Surveyor, on account of the new Building.	250	00	00			
				403	07	05
				485	14	06
Total paid				1077	09	11 ½
Balance in the Treasurer's Hands on the 26th of *March* 1735 inclusive at the last Audit.				2897	05	07

	l.	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
Receipts from the first Erection of this Infirmary to the 27th of *March* 1734 inclusive,	9861	01	11			
Receipts for the Year 1734	1650	05	09			
Total Receipts to the 26th of *March* 1735 inclusive				11511	07	08
Payments from the first Erection of this Infirmary to the 27th of *March* 1734 inclusive,	7536	12	01 ½			
Payments for the Year 1734	1077	09	11 ½			
Total Payments to the 26th of *March* 1735 inclusive				8614	02	01
Balance then of the whole				2897	05	07

N. B. The remaining Tradesmens and Workmens Bills for Furniture, Alterations, additional Building, hot and cold Baths, *&c.* amount to about 800 *l.* and were not deliver'd in time enough to be included in this Account.